

What is claimed is:

1. A water irrigation system, comprising:

5 a computer system comprising an infrared receiver, wherein the infrared receiver is configured to receive infrared output from a device comprising an infrared transmitter, wherein the device is configured to allow a user to provide instructions to the water irrigation system; and

wherein the computer system is configured to control irrigation of a zone to be irrigated at least partially based on the infrared output from the device.

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2. The water irrigation system of claim 1, wherein the infrared receiver is an infrared transceiver.

3. The water irrigation system of claim 1, wherein the device is a hand-held device.

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4. The water irrigation system of claim 1, wherein the device is a laptop computer.

5. The water irrigation system of claim 1, wherein the device is a personal digital assistant.

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6. The water irrigation system of claim 1, wherein the device is a cellular phone.

7. The water irrigation system of claim 1, wherein the instructions comprise a regional identifier.

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8. The water irrigation system of claim 1, wherein the instructions comprise a postal code.

9. The water irrigation system of claim 1, wherein the instructions comprise a day of the week.

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10. The water irrigation system of claim 1, wherein the instructions comprise a time of day.

11. The water irrigation system of claim 1, wherein the instructions comprise a year.

12. The water irrigation system of claim 1, wherein the instructions comprise a month.

13. The water irrigation system of claim 1, wherein the instructions comprise a day of a month.

14. The water irrigation system of claim 1, wherein the instructions comprise a date.

15. The water irrigation system of claim 1, wherein the instructions comprise a soil type.

16. The water irrigation system of claim 1, wherein the instructions comprise a type of vegetation.

17. The water irrigation system of claim 1, wherein the instructions comprise a stress factor.

18. The water irrigation system of claim 1, wherein the instructions comprise instructions to initiate irrigation.

19. The water irrigation system of claim 1, wherein the instructions comprise instructions to terminate irrigation.

20. The water irrigation system of claim 1, wherein the computer system is configured to inhibit irrigation at least partially based on the infrared output from the device.

21. The water irrigation system of claim 1, further comprising a sensing unit, wherein the sensing unit comprises a solar panel configured to receive sunlight and to produce electricity from the received sunlight, and wherein the solar panel is configured to supply at least a portion of the electricity to the sensing unit.

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22. The water irrigation system of claim 1, wherein the computer system is configured to control irrigation at least partially based on community irrigation instructions.

23. The water irrigation system of claim 1, further comprising a sensing unit, wherein  
10 the sensing unit comprises a transmitter configured to provide output from the sensing unit to the computer system.

24. The water irrigation system of claim 1, further comprising one or more valves that are operated by the computer system.

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25. The water irrigation system of claim 1, further comprising one or more valves that are operated by the computer system, wherein at least one of the valves is coupled to one or more conduits, and wherein at least a portion of each conduit is configured to carry water.

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26. The water irrigation system of claim 1, further comprising one or more valves that are operated by the computer system, wherein at least one of the valves is coupled to one or more conduits, and wherein at least a portion of each conduit is configured to carry water, and one or more irrigation devices, wherein at least one of the irrigation devices is  
25 coupled to at least one of the conduits.

27. The water irrigation system of claim 1, further comprising one or more valves that are operated by the computer system, wherein at least one of the valves is coupled to one or more conduits, wherein at least a portion of each conduit is configured to carry water,  
30 and a source of water that is coupled to at least one of the conduits.

28. A method of controlling irrigation, comprising:  
providing infrared output from a device comprising an infrared transmitter;  
allowing an infrared receiver of a computer system of a water irrigation system to  
receive the infrared output; and

5 controlling irrigation of a zone to be irrigated at least partially based on the  
infrared output received from the device.

29. The method of claim 28, wherein controlling irrigation comprises initiating  
irrigation by the water irrigation system.

10 30. The method of claim 28, wherein controlling irrigation comprises terminating  
irrigation by the water irrigation system.

31. The method of claim 28, further comprising assessing solar insolation near or in  
15 the zone to be irrigated, and controlling irrigation at least partially based on the assessed  
solar insolation.

32. The method of claim 28, further comprising assessing solar insolation near or in  
the zone to be irrigated, and assessing zonal evapotranspiration at least partially based on  
20 the assessed solar insolation.

33. The method of claim 28, further comprising controlling irrigation based at least  
partially on community irrigation instructions.